

Date: December 18, 1991

To: Nursing Homes
Facilities for the Developmentally Disabled

NH 41
FDD 21

From: Larry Tainter, Director
Bureau of Quality Assurance

Subject: Discharge Information Required Upon Resident Deaths

This memorandum is being sent to clarify the requirements for nursing homes relating to the discharge information that is required upon the death of a resident.

In our review of the federal regulations for nursing homes in Section 483.12, as well as Wisconsin Administrative Code, Chapter HSS 132.53(3)(c), 132.45(5)(1), and 132.45(6)(h), and the federal regulations governing ICFs/MR in Section 483.440(b)(4) and (5), as well as Wisconsin Administrative Code, Chapter HSS 134.47(4)(k) and 134.53(4)(d), we have determined the information required in these regulations does not apply to a discharge summary in the case of a resident's death. These regulations only apply when a resident is being transferred or discharged to another placement.

Although there is not a requirement for a formal discharge summary when a resident expires in a nursing home, the facility does need to document the circumstances of the death in the appropriate area(s) of the medical record in order to close their record on the resident. This information must be retained in the closed record file.

If you have any questions on these issues, please contact the Field Operation Manager for your facility.

CS/df 1121.mmo

cc: -BQC Staff
-Office of Legal Counsel
-Ann Haney, DOH Admin.
-Kevin Piper, BHCF Dir.
-HCFA, Region V
-Illinois State Agency
-Ohio State Agency
-Michigan State Agency
-Indiana State Agency
-Minnesota State Agency
-WI Coalition for Advocacy
-Service Employees International Union
-WI Counties Assn.
-WI Medical Records Assn. Cons. Committee
-WI Assoc. of Homes and Services for Aging
-Comm. on Aging, Ext. Care Fac./HH (SMS)
-WI Assn. of Nursing Homes
-WI Assn. of Medical Directors
-Admin., Div. of Care and Treatment Facilities
-WI Assn. of Hosp. SW & Discharge Planners
-Bd. on Aging & Long-Term Care
-Bur. Design Prof., DRL
-BQC Memo Subscribers